

## 8,000 SERBS FALL INTO BULGAR HANDS

Made Prisoners in Pristina District—Many Guns Are Captured.

### BATTLE IN RAPEC GORGE

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. LONDON, Nov. 23.—The continued advance of both the Austro-German and the Bulgarian armies in Serbia is announced from Berlin to-day. The fighting centered about the Austro-German-Bulgarian attempts to take Pristina and Mitrovica, both of which are still in Serbian hands.

The Serbian opposition in this region is now in the nature of rear guard actions, according to the German official statement, which says that 8,000 Serbs were taken prisoners in the Pristina district. The statement follows:

North of Mitrovica and north and northeast of Pristina the enemy was thrown back in rear guard battles. The Bulgarian forces fighting southeast of Pristina are victoriously advancing. In the region near Pristina 8,000 Serbs were made prisoners and twenty-two machine guns and forty-four cannon were captured.

### Montenegrins Dislodged.

The official statement issued at Vienna to-day regarding the Balkan says: The Austro-Hungarian fighting in the district of Cavije have ejected the Montenegrins from the positions on the northern slope of the Jons Mountains.

East of Gornje the fighting continues. An Austro-Hungarian detachment from Nova-Varos is approaching Prijepolje.

At Novi-Bazar the army of Gen. von Kovecs captured fifty mortars, eight field guns, 4,000,000 rounds of cartridges and much war material. The enemy, who still remained in the east of the town, was driven off by German troops and 300 prisoners were captured.

An Austro-Hungarian column advancing in the Thier valley captured to the north of Mitrovica three Serbian positions. When night fell a fourth position was taken by surprise. We captured 200 men, six guns, four machine guns, ammunition and other war material. The enemy was driven off by German troops and 300 prisoners were captured.

In the east and southeast the first Bulgarian army, in spite of the tenacious resistance of the Serbs, is steadily gaining ground.

Details of a French repulse are contained in a press agency despatch from French headquarters at Kavadar, north-east of Pripolje, received here by way of Paris. The despatch is dated November 21 and says that after a bloody battle in the gorge of the Rade, a tributary of the Cerna, the French retired from a point north of Drenovo to the right bank of the Cerna. The distance over which the French retreated is not great—perhaps three or four miles—but the repulse means that they have been thrown back across the Cerna, and any offensive by them is delayed through the necessity of crossing the river again.

### French Hold Rade Gorge.

The French still hold the Rade Gorge, the despatch says, and also the bridgehead at Boharski, which controls the heights opposite Gradac.

The official communiqué issued by the French War Office to-night regarding the operations of the army of the Orient follows:

After the engagements of November 19 and 20 on the left bank of the Cerna the day of November 21 passed without fighting in this sector, as also was the case in the sector of Strumitsa.

The situation on the Rade is described by one of the correspondents with the French army. The granite walled gorge, he says, is a strong natural position, but is exposed to artillery fire from the surrounding heights. The French, however, rapid stream runs through the gorge.

The Bulgarians opened their attack with a heavy artillery fire from the hills, throwing shrapnel into the gorge below from guns mounted on both sides of the Vardar, into which the Cerna runs a few miles to the north of Drenovo. In the infantry fighting which followed the Bulgarians played a prominent part.

The Bulgarians are rushing reinforcements from Pripolje, the correspondent says, and the French have had to withdraw from any positions on which a concentrated attack was made, since they have not the necessary means of transportation to effect quick shifting of forces.

An official statement was given out by the Serbian legation in Paris to-day announcing a Serbian victory over the Bulgarians west of Velika Plana and Mount Zetovatz. Velika Plana is fifteen miles northeast of Kurnumliya, through which the Austro-German line as described in Berlin official despatches runs. The Serbian announcement would seem to indicate either that the Austro-German-Bulgarian line in this region has been pushed back a considerable distance or that the statement received by the legation was issued several days ago, before the more recent Bulgarian gains, and was delayed in transit.

### Serbs Defeat Bulgars.

The statement says: Battles occurred recently on the old Serbo-Turkish frontier. The most important encounters were fought to the west of Velika Plana and Mount Zetovatz. We inflicted a defeat on the enemy at the latter point, capturing five mountain cannon.

The Serbian Government has been moved again, this time from Mitrovica to Prizren, near the Albanian border, according to an Athens despatch, which adds that the Diplomatic Corps has moved to Petch, in Montenegro.

Another Athens despatch quotes a Serbian official statement as saying that the Serbs have regained the Vales-Pripolje front and are now rushing reinforcements to the small bands which have been holding some of the heights dominating the western extremity of the line.

According to a despatch from Geneva 150,000 Austrian troops have been concentrated at Pola, the Austrian naval base. The despatch says that while it is not known where the troops are to be sent, it is reported that they will be used against Montenegro or Albania.

### CZAR READY TO AID.

350,000 Men to Take the Field Against Bulgaria.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—A report from Bucharest sent out from Berlin to-day says that 80,000 Russian troops have been mobilized on the Rumanian frontier and 200,000 more are held at Odessa ready to be sent to the Balkans.

The despatch says: "The Czar and Czarvitch arrived at Rini yesterday to inspect the newly formed army equipped for action against Bulgaria. The Czar will remain there three days at Rini. At that place there will be held in readiness 80,000 men, at Iemal 70,000 and at Odessa 200,000 men. This army is said to be very well equipped and ready to take the field in the immediate future."

## RESIGNATION OF GREEK PREMIER IS EXPECTED

Skouloudis's Withdrawal Is Likely to Be Result of Crisis With British.

### Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Nov. 24 (Wednesday).—The immediate resignation of Premier Skouloudis is predicted in a despatch from Salonica, which says that reports are current that the Premier is about to leave office on account of the difficulties existing between Greece and Great Britain.

At the same time an Athens despatch quotes a prominent Government official as saying that King Constantine and Premier Skouloudis assured Lord Kitchener on his recent visit to Athens that Greece would not take hostile measures against the Entente and that the existing differences would be satisfactorily settled.

Announcement was made by the British Foreign Office yesterday that no Greek ships are being seized or held up in ports of the United Kingdom and that no blockade of Greek ports has been instituted.

The announcement of the Foreign Office that Greece is not under blockade is regarded as puzzling by some of the morning newspapers. The announcement is variously interpreted as meaning that Greece has yielded to the demands of the Allies or that the Foreign Office is now simply interpreting the announcement made by the British Legation at Athens.

### Reports Exaggerated.

The Times recalls its editorial of November 22, saying that the stories of the blockade were greatly exaggerated, and contends that the legation's announcement covers the possibility of such a control of Greek shipping as the circumstances may appear to warrant.

The Daily Chronicle expresses the opinion that the two statements do not conflict, while the Daily News thinks that the statement of the Foreign Office complicates the situation and infers that something has happened since the legation's announcement was made to modify the situation.

The Morning Post, without speculating on the interpretation to be put on the Foreign Office's action, calls attention to the despatch from its Athens correspondent under yesterday's date, saying: "Returning questions are still entirely unsettled between Greece and the Allies."

Members of Parliament discussed the announcement in the lobby to-day. They admitted that it befogged the situation, and expressed the hope that an explanatory statement would be made before adjournment, but none was given. Many members gave it as their opinion that there was no discrepancy between the two statements, and that the apparent difficulty was merely a diplomatic quibble.

### Speedy Settlement Expected.

In the absence of official explanation it is generally assumed that the reception of Lord Kitchener's representations by King Constantine and Premier Skouloudis had been more favorable than was reported and that the announcement of the legation in Athens was premature, indicating merely what the British position would be in case of a refusal on the part of the Greek Government to make the concessions asked.

M. Denis Cochon, the French Cabinet Minister now in Greece on a special mission, had luncheon yesterday with King Constantine, according to an Athens despatch, and the situation was thoroughly discussed. No announcement was made of the results of the conference.

The despatch reports the impressions prevailing after the conference that a settlement satisfactory to both the Entente and Greece would be reached.

Another Athens despatch ascribes the reported change in the attitude of the Greek Government to promises made by Lord Kitchener in his interview with King Constantine that Great Britain will have 4,000,000 troops in the field by next March and also will be able to arm and supply 6,000,000 Russian troops.

A despatch from Salonica says that Greece stands ready to give assurances to the Entente Powers that she is keeping troops mobilized in Macedonia only because of the necessity of self-protection in case the British and French should withdraw from the Balkans, leaving Greek Macedonia at the mercy of the Bulgarians. The statements of the Entente Powers as to their intentions regarding the continuance of the

1000 men, at Iemal 70,000 and at Odessa 200,000 men. This army is said to be very well equipped and ready to take the field in the immediate future."

### BERLIN GETS GRAIN.

#### Tentative Export Regular Shipments of Foodstuffs From Balkans.

Berlin, via London, Nov. 23.—The arrival of the first cargo of grain from the Balkans in Berlin is announced by the Vossische Zeitung.

That paper prints a despatch from Constantinople, which says that regular shipments of foodstuffs, especially grain, to Germany and Austria will be continued.

### BULGARS HOLD U. S. DOCTORS.

#### Attempts Made to Secure Release of Four Physicians.

ROME, Nov. 23.—A report has reached here that Dr. Edward Stuart, of Boston, is trying, through appeals to Bulgarian and American consulates, to secure the release from Uskub of four American physicians who remained there after the Bulgarian occupation.

These physicians are Stanley S. Osborne of Peabody, Mass., Charles E. Fox of Baltimore, Henry H. H. of New York and George H. H. of Brooklyn. Dr. F. Cornelius of Berlin, Ky., sends word that he prefers to remain at Uskub with the Lady Paget Hospital.

### POWDER PLANTS EXPAND.

#### Apex Buys 200 Acres on the Haritina Atlas After 368 Acres.

BONHAMTOWN, N. J., Nov. 23.—The Apex Powder Company, with offices in New York, has acquired 200 acres fronting on the Haritina River and adjoining the Metuchen gunpowder mill of Lewis E. Nixon and will build a plant to employ 2,000 hands.

The Atlas Powder Company recorded options with the Middlesex County Clerk yesterday for 368 acres in Sayreville township.

## KOVEL IS FORTIFIED AGAINST RUSSIANS

Germans Prepare for Long Siege—Czar's Troops on the Offensive.

### Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PETROGRAD, via London, Nov. 23.—Refugees reaching here from Kovel in the province of Volhynia, near the Galician frontier, declare that the Germans in that district are strongly fortifying the town of Kovel and preparing for a Russian attack. They say that the German commanders have put enforced labor rules into effect in order to prepare for a long siege. Stone and cement barracks are being constructed.

Since Kovel is west of the Styry River, where there has been fighting for several weeks, there is little doubt now that the Russians have been generally successful in this fighting. Judging from the reports of the Germans the tide of battle in Russia has begun to turn in this district, and the Russians have taken the offensive.

Some military observers here are of the opinion that even before next spring Galicia may for the third time be the scene of sanguinary battles, this time with the Russians properly equipped to consolidate whatever victories they may achieve.

The front upon which the Teuton forces may operate, with Kovel as a base, reaches along the Styry, from Galicia south along the Strypa in Galicia.

The official communiqué issued in Petrograd to-day says:

In the district of the Dvina, north of Lake Swenson we captured the first line of the enemy's trenches. South of Dwinsk the enemy assumed the offensive along the river Laxov, but, being met by our fire, sustained heavy losses and was forced to regain his old positions.

On the left bank of the Middle Styry our troops attacked the enemy west of Kozhitchi. Part of the enemy fled and part were bayoneted. We captured two officers, 177 men, one machine gun, 190 rifles and a large quantity of cartridges and munitions.

In Galicia, on the east bank of the Strypa the enemy's offensive against Khmelevka west to Trembovia was broken by our fire.

### ONE LEADER FOR ALLIES!

Question of Command in France to Be Raised To-day in Commons.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—Sir George Scott Roberts and will raise in the House of Commons to-morrow the question of the advisability of placing the British and French armies in France under one commander. He said that he had been asked to do so by the French army leaders, and that he had been given to understand that such a change in the command of the allied land forces across the Channel.

The London Observer declared editorially last Sunday that the suggestion of Gen. Foch, one of the most brilliant of the French army leaders, be placed in command of the British forces in France was favorably commented on in military circles in England.

### GERMAN WAR PLANT IN OHIO?

#### Cleveland Lakefront Structure Suggests Anti-Canadian Plot.

CLEVELAND, Nov. 23.—British and Federal secret service agents have located a mysterious house supposed to be a German war plant, and a certain number of troops should be sent here to cooperate with their army against the Bulgarians.

The first contingents of our force were already landing and more were on their way when Premier Venizelos was suddenly forced to resign and the Greek Government abandoned their engagement to march with us or to fulfill their treaty obligation to succor Serbia.

This change on the part of the Greeks is the source and origin of the present inconvenient situation.

The correspondent adds that if Greece had cooperated the Allies might have prevented the Germans from opening a way to Constantinople. The Germans now control the whole Vienna-Constantinople railway, he adds, and will continue to do so for a long time before the Allies can hamper their use of it. The nearest point on the railway is 120 miles distant from the nearest Allied troops in the country in that direction is difficult.

### BRITISH GET GERARD REPORTS.

#### "No Breach of Diplomatic Courtesy," Says Official Statement.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. LONDON, Nov. 23.—The official press bureau announced to-day that the reports on the detention camps for prisoners of war in Germany made from time to time by Ambassador Gerard in Berlin to the British Foreign Office through the American Embassy in London are given out textually as they are received for publication.

"In view of the fact," says the announcement, "that these reports are prepared for the information of his Majesty's Government there is no question of a breach of diplomatic courtesy in their being published in England. Ambassador Gerard some time ago gave explicit permission for their publication."

### RECRUITS CALLED IN AFRICA.

#### Gen. Smits Says Germans Must Be Driven Out of Country.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—A despatch from Cape Town quotes Gen. J. C. Smits, commander of the expedition against German East Africa, as saying that it is the duty of the Union to "drive the German flag from South Africa."

"South Africa," he said, "is not protected by a Monroe Doctrine as is America, nor by distance, as is Australia. We must have more recruits; we must defeat the Germans."

### Whitlock Arrives on Ryndam.

The Holland-American liner Ryndam passed in Sandy Hook at 10:35 o'clock last night. Among the passengers on board was Brand Whitlock, American Minister to Belgium. The Ryndam will dock at 8 o'clock this morning.

### Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—The official British casualty list for all fronts issued to-day contains the names of thirty-five officers, of whom fifteen were killed, and of 571 men, of whom 235 were killed.

### GERMAN CRUISER SUNK.

#### Russian Torpedo Boats in Attack—180 of Crew Lost.

LONDON, Nov. 24 (Wednesday).—A Petrograd despatch to the Daily Chronicle says that in the Baltic, near Windau, Russian torpedo boats sank a German cruiser of 3,000 tons to-day. The cruiser had an armament of 4 inch and 3½ inch guns. Only twenty out of the crew of 200 were saved.

### LOST WARSHIP THE MARKGRAF.

#### New German Dreadnought Said to Have Hit Mine.

COPENHAGEN, Nov. 23.—A despatch from Copenhagen says that the new German dreadnought reported sunk by a mine in the Baltic was the Markgraf, a warship of 25,575 tons, which was placed in commission after the war began.

Some believe that the very recently increased activity of British submarines in the Baltic, and not a mine, may have been responsible for the German disaster, but none of the reports has official confirmation.

## REDMOND, BACK FROM FRONT, SEES VICTORY

Nationalist Leader Tells Irish Duty Bids Them Keep Ranks Well Filled.

### Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—John E. Redmond, the Irish nationalist leader, speaking at a recruiting meeting in Queen's Hall to-day, said:

"So far as the western front is concerned, Germany is beaten. She is weakening daily and hourly. For every shell that the Germans throw, we are throwing five."

"There are no pessimists among our men fighting there. From the commander in chief down through all the ranks of the army there is a feeling of absolute confidence as to the result of the war."

Mr. Redmond, who visited the Belgian lines, said he told King Albert "that Ireland was determined to stand by the independence of Belgium at any cost. Come weal or woe, Ireland would have no peace that does not bring about the rehabilitation of Belgium."

He concluded with a message from the Irish troops at the front to their fellow countrymen:

"They ask me to say they feel that every man of them in this war is fighting not merely for liberty and right but for the prosperity of their beloved Ireland as well. They ask Ireland to stand by them."

"I say to the Irish people that they will be disgraced forever in history if they fail to send out reserves to replenish the gaps that may arise in the Irish ranks."

### DENIES IRELAND WILL RESIST.

#### Asquith Denounces Reported Opposition to Conscription.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. LONDON, Nov. 23.—In the House of Commons to-day Premier Asquith denounced the suggestion that if conscription were forced upon Ireland it would be resisted by drilled and armed forces. He did not say whether Lord Derby's recruiting scheme had proved successful.

### Denmark Bars Cotton Exports.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—It is reported from Copenhagen that the Danish Government has put a ban on the exportation of cotton goods and of casein in the dry state.



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